

[Rollcall Vote No. 74 Leg.]

YEAS—8

Byrd	Feingold	Reid
Conrad	Hollings	Robb
Dorgan	Moynihan	

NAYS—91

Abraham	Feinstein	Lugar
Akaka	Ford	Mack
Allard	Frist	McCain
Ashcroft	Glenn	McConnell
Baucus	Gorton	Mikulski
Bennett	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Gramm	Murkowski
Bingaman	Grams	Murray
Bond	Grassley	Nickles
Boxer	Gregg	Reed
Breaux	Hagel	Roberts
Brownback	Hatch	Rockefeller
Bryan	Helms	Roth
Bumpers	Hutchinson	Santorum
Burns	Hutchison	Sarbanes
Campbell	Inhofe	Sessions
Chafee	Inouye	Shelby
Cleland	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Coats	Johnson	Smith (OR)
Cochran	Kempthorne	Snowe
Collins	Kennedy	Specter
Coverdell	Kerrey	Stevens
Craig	Kerry	Thomas
D'Amato	Kohl	Thompson
Daschle	Kyl	Thurmond
DeWine	Landrieu	Torricelli
Dodd	Lautenberg	Warner
Domenici	Leahy	Wellstone
Durbin	Levin	Wyden
Enzi	Lieberman	
Faircloth	Lott	

NOT VOTING—1

Harkin

The amendment (No. 295) was rejected.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise in support of the fiscal year 1998 balanced budget resolution.

I congratulate the hard-working chairman of the Budget Committee for his leadership and dedication in bringing us to this point, as well as our distinguished majority leader.

Am I especially happy to be able to use those 2 words, "balanced budget."

This budget resolution represents a victory for the American people; for sound, conservative principles; for those of us who have fought for years for a balanced budget; for the seniors who will be protected by a safer, sounder Medicare system; and for the workers of today and the children of tomorrow, who will benefit from a healthier economy and better jobs.

Some may be disappointed because this is not a "perfect" budget; but it's a big improvement over the status quo; and there's a world of difference between this budget and the big-government, tax-and-spend budgets of just a few years ago.

Less than 2 years ago, President Clinton was saying we didn't even need to balance the budget; then he said, maybe we could balance by 2005; but the new Republican majority elected in 1994, and reelected in 1996, insisted on a plan to a balanced budget by 2002—and now we've got one.

Two years ago, when the first Republican Congress in 40 years took office,

we found a Medicare system ready to go bankrupt in 2001.

We said it was time to fix Medicare and we tried to slow its rate of growth to 6 or 7 percent a year, with pro-senior citizen, pro-consumer reforms.

Some from the other side tried to hit us with 30-second attack ads, claiming that seniors' benefits would be slashed and burned.

But the American people didn't believe them.

Today, finally, we have a sober, responsible, bipartisan agreement that says Medicare must be repaired—so that Medicare continues to be there for our seniors who need it.

And yes, in this budget agreement, Medicare grows at about 6 percent a year.

Under this budget, Medicare part A will be solvent for a decade.

The details that finally emerge later this year in a budget reconciliation bill will probably not contain all the structural, market-based reforms that Medicare needs for the long term, but this budget should be a good start.

Four years ago, the President asked for, and Congress unfortunately passed, the biggest tax increase in history.

Today, this budget agreement includes real, pro-family, pro-growth, tax cuts.

We finally begin to roll back that last, huge tax increase.

The skeptics said you couldn't balance the budget, cut taxes, and get bipartisan agreement.

But this budget will do those things.

Let's remember: What this budget begins to do is let the people keep more of their own money.

Under this budget, we will finally begin to get spending growth under control.

Will the government still be too big and intrusive? Yes.

But the Federal Government will spend \$1.1 trillion less over the next 10 years than it would have spent under previous policies.

Spending growth will drop from 4.4 percent a year under previous policies to 3.1 percent a year under this budget—just barely more than inflation.

The Government will finally begin to shrink relative to the size of the economy.

Spending will still go up in nominal dollars, but it will drop from 20.8 percent to 18.9 percent of gross domestic product, by 2002.

Of course, a lot depends on the enforcement provisions that will have to be part of the budget reconciliation legislation later this year.

I'll be watching that legislation closely.

We've learned from bitter existence in the past that permanent procedures are needed to keep spending from running wild.

After all, the road to a \$5.3 trillion debt was paved with good intentions.

That's why we should have passed—and still need—a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

But the budget enforcement rules called for under this budget resolution should help keep us on course to a balanced budget by 2002.

A majority of the people in America have seen the budget balanced exactly once or never in their lifetimes.

The last two balanced budgets were in 1960 and 1969.

A majority of Americans alive today were born after 1960.

It's time for that destructive trend to end.

It's time to create a better future for all Americans.

This budget resolution is the right beginning of that promising future.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes the budget resolution on Wednesday, there be an additional 5 hours subtracted from the overall time constraints provided for in the Budget Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I assume we have no further amendments tonight, but I think Senator GRASSLEY would like to take some time, and I will yield that time to him at this point. How much time would the Senator like?

Mr. GRASSLEY. Can I have 20 minutes?

Mr. DOMENICI. Will the Senator mind closing the Senate after his 20 minutes? Does the Senator from New Jersey have any objection? The Senator from Iowa is going to take 20 minutes, and we will let him close the Senate if we are finished for the evening.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. No, I certainly trust the Senator from Iowa. He is not going to cut taxes.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield the floor, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. I assume that is after I have finished my remarks on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BIGOTRY MUST BE DENOUNCED

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise to condemn in the strongest possible terms recent comments that have been attributed to Mr. Freih Abu Medein, the Justice Minister in the Palestinian authority.

In a May 17 article in the Washington Post, journalist Barton Gellman reported that Mr. Medein stated last month that "five Zionist Jews" are running the United States' Middle East policy and, in the words of the article, he "added that it is implausible that a